countries and the carbon credits they generate would be bought by developed countries to meet their commitments under the Protocol.

(b) to (d) Under the Kyoto Protocol only developed Countries (Annex-I Parties) have qantified commitments to reduce their Green House Gas emissions. Developing countries have no such quantified commitments but are required to develop, periodically update and report their national inventories of anthropogenic emissions of Green House Gases in accordance with the Framework Convention and take other appropriate measures to mitigate climate change and facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change. India and a number of other developing countries have submitted their initial National Communication in fulfilment of these obligations. A number of developing countries, including India have also taken measure to mitigate climate change such as encouraging renewable sources of energy, energy efficiency in thermal power plants, afforestation and reforestation schemes and have also promoted projects under the Clean Development Mechanism of the Protocol which reduce emissions of Green House Gases.

Essential forests cover for protection of environment

1859. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the projected extent of forest cover in each State of the country which is essential for the protection of environment and the actual cover in each State;

(b) whether Government propose to take any steps to increase the forest coverage in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof including fund allocation thereof, State-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) As per the National Forest Policy (1988), the national goal envisages a minimum of one-third of the

total land area of the country under forest or tree cover. In the hills and in mountainous regions, the policy aims at maintaining two-third of the area under such cover in order to prevent erosion and land degradation and to ensure the stability of the fragile ecosystem. The forest cover State-wise as per the 'State of Forest Report (SFR)-2003' published by the Forest Survey of India (FSI), is given in the enclosed statement-I (*See* below).

(b) and (c) The following steps have been taken to increase the forest cover in the country:

(i) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has launched a major afforestation initiative called the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) during the Tenth Five Year Plan for regeneration to degraded forests and adjoining lands through people's participation. The people-centric approach is manifested in the two-tier decentralized institutional set-up of Forest Development Agencies (FDAs) at the forest division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at the village level for the implementation of NAP.

State-wise funds released during the period from 2002-03 to 2005-06 (as on 30.11.2005) under NAP is given in the enclosed Statement-II (*See* below).

(ii) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is also implementing Integrated Forest Protection Scheme, primarily for strengthening the infrastructure for protection of forests to control illicit fellings, fires and encroachments, etc.

(iii) Guidelines for rationalization of felling and transit regulations for tree species grown on non-forest private lands have been issued to the State Governments and Union Territories to encourage private tree plantations.

(iv) State Governments and Union Territories have been requested to formulate and implement a comprehensive Media Plan to create mass awareness about tree planting.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement-I

Forest cover in State/Union Territories in India as per the 'State of Forest Report (SFR)-2003' published by Forest Survey of India (FSI)

(Area in Km)

State/Union Territory	Total Forest Cover
Andhra Pradesh	44,419
Arunachal Pradesh	68,019
Assam	27,826
Bihar	5,558
Chhattisgarh	55,998
Delhi	170
Goa	2,156
Gujarat	14,946
Haryana	1,517
Himachal Pradesh	14,353
Jammu and Kashmir	21,267
Jharkhand	22,716
Karnataka	36,449
Kerala	15,577
Madhya Pradesh	76,429
Maharashtra	46,865
Manipur	17,219
Meghalaya	16,839
Mizoram	18,430
Nagaland	13,609
Orissa	48,366
Punjab	1,580
Rajasthan	15,826
Sikkim	3,262
Tamil Nadu	22,643

State/Union Territory	Total Forest Cover
Tripura	8,093
Uttar Pradesh	14,118
Uttaranchal	24,465
West Bengal	12,343
Andaman and Nicobar	6,964
Chandigarh	15
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	225
Daman and Diu	8
Lakshadweep	23
Pondicherry	40
TOTAL:	678,333

Statement-II

Funds released to Forest Development Agencies under National Afforestation Programme (NAP)

(As on 30.11.2005)

Sl. No.	Name of State/Union Territory	Amount Released (Rs. in Crores)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	36.55
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.29
3.	Assam	17.00
4.	Bihar	6.44
5.	Chhattisgarh	42.17
6.	Goa	0.64
7.	Gujarat	24.49
8.	Haryana	28.02
9.	Himachal Pradesh	23.27
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	18.46

1	2	3
11.	Jharkhand	24.51
12.	Karnataka	70.17
13.	Kerala	8.63
14.	Madhya Pradesh	48.72
15.	Maharashtra	39.67
16.	Manipur	19.21
17.	Meghalaya	7.63
18.	Mizoram	45.97
19.	Nagaland	28.31
20.	Orissa	34.33
21.	Punjab	4.92
22.	Rajasthan	17.83
23.	Sikkim	17.99
24.	Tamil Nadu	50.08
25.	Tripura	16.05
26.	Uttar Pradesh	70.62
27.	Uttaranchal	21.31
28.	West Bengal	18.40
	TOTAL:	751.68

Pending project report for development of townships on different rivers in Maharashtra

1880. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether project reports for development of townships on different rivers in Maharashtra have been submitted to the Central Government for approval under the National River Action Plan, under the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the cost of the different projects, and since when the same are pending;

(c) the reasons for delay, at what stage they are pending and by when the same are likely to be cleared for implementation; and

(d) the cost escalation incurred?